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Paris for Embassy and USRO

~~Ref~~ Embtels 869, 913

I. Department approves Embassy's vigorous action re Soviet air transit rights, and while little can be added previous argumentation, following points may be useful:

1. As to SUNAY statement USSR would "grant immediately" reciprocal rights to Turkey, Department believes that would not repeat not be true if Turkey sought rights transit all of USSR (i.e. to Far East or US West Coast), just as USSR seeking transit all of Turkey. Japan used that counter effectively by proposing reciprocal rights for Japan Air Lines fly to Moscow as capital just as USSR desired fly Tokyo as capital. USSR counter offer was for JAL fly only to eastern Siberian point. Undoubtedly USSR would make similar counter offer to Turkey which Turkey could then reject. (Although USSR/Japan were discussing traffic rights and USSR/Turkey only transit rights analogy is valid) If, by any remote chance USSR granted transit across all USSR, might be well worth while consider desirability accepting same.

2.

NEA:GTI:JHMorris
 TRC:AV:AWStoffel:mb

1-31-61

Telegraphic transmission and
 classification approved by:

AV - H. T. Snowden

Clearances:

DOD - Col. Haynes (substance)

SOV - Mr. Armitage

RA - Mr. Sullivan (informed)

TRC -

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2. Previous rights granted Czechs constitutes no precedent because:

- a. Granted under bilateral agreement (as Turks aware).
- b. Whereas Czechs are members ICAO and adherents Air Transit Agreement, USSR is not repeat not (nor is Hungary) and is entitled absolutely no consideration that score.

3. Since there is no evidence Soviets are seeking landing rights Beirut now or have much chance obtaining them near future, Turks could be advised it is acceptable procedure in civil aviation to postpone discussion transit rights until terminal rights obtained.

II. In view of important security implications to Turkey, US and Alliances, Department and Department of Defense recommend Embassy continue to urge delay. In addition to suggestions for delay made in reference tel recommend you urge Turks to seek position of CENTO, UK, and Lebanese, as well as NATO.

If overflight rights eventually granted, hope Turks would do so only on basis of important concession by USSR and that such overflight rights would be subject to:

1. No refueling or landing rights in Turkey except for right to land "in event of a forced landing".
2. Right of inspection, if landing rights are granted or in event of forced landing.
3. Suspension of any landing rights granted whenever Turks deem it in their best interests.

III. Embassy should follow closely subject possible Soviet aircraft offer THY. Seems difficult believe THY would want to be saddled with Soviet-built aircraft which

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Page 3 of telegram to Embassy ANKARA

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all experienced Free World airlines have shunned even when offered as gifts.

Embtel 937 subject separate reply.

Pouched by DCT

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